

DISPATCH

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Vol. 40, No. 18

437th Airlift Wing, Charleston AFB, SC

Friday, May 11, 2001

437 Security Forces prepares to celebrate National Police Week

By Senior Airman Jason Smith
437 AW Public Affairs

The 437th Security Forces Squadron is preparing Charleston AFB for National Police Week Sunday-May 19.

National Peace Officers Day, Tuesday, and the week around it, was made official when former President John F. Kennedy signed Public Law 87-726 October 1, 1962.

"To me, National Police Week is a time to honor those officers who have fallen, and also recognize people who do the job on a day-to-day basis," said Staff Sgt. Patrick Rodgers, 437 SFS unit trainer. "Recently, a Charleston police officer was shot at a local mall. It can happen to anyone at anytime."

Rodgers said security forces members have the additional responsibility of wearing two hats (or berets).

"Our folks here not only have day-to-day law enforcement and security responsibilities, but they could get sent anywhere at any time, to fight a war," said Rodgers.

Police week kicks off at CAFB with a Reveille and Wreath-Laying Ceremony at the base flagstaff Monday, 7 a.m. The Honor Guard will be raising the flag, and Al

Cannon, sheriff of Charleston County Sheriff's Office, will be speaking. Local police departments and all of Team Charleston are invited to the ceremony that includes a 21-gun salute.

The purpose of the wreath laying is to honor police officers who have been killed or disabled in the line of duty. Family members of fallen officers will be present, to include the Rollinson family.

Sgt. William Rollinson, 437th Security Police Squadron, was killed in a 1985 plane crash. See page 11 for more information.

The security forces squadron will follow Reveille with a car wash at the Shoppette Monday, 8 a.m.-3 p.m. The money raised will be used to help offset the cost of the wreath and purchase candy for a parade on Thursday.

Recruiters will take members of the squadron to Goose Creek High School Tuesday for a recruiting visit. The security forces members will set up displays of different equipment, including a humvee.

Wednesday will be a day of competition for the squadron during its Above the Rim Basketball Tournament.

Thursday's events include

See Police, page 3



Photo by Senior Airman Jason Smith

Wing Pride cuts through

Airman 1st Class Damain Greene, 437th Maintenance Squadron, mows a lawn in base housing. Charleston AFB members were asked to pay particular attention to base appearance, in both housing and workcenters, Thursday as part of Wing Pride Day.

Retirement benefits to see change with REDUX plan

By Senior Airman Jason Smith
437 AW Public Affairs

Active-duty members, who entered the service on or after Aug. 1, 1986, will have a retirement decision to make starting Aug. 1, as a result of the 2000 National Defense Authorization Act.

The NDAA, which became law with former President William Clinton's signature Oct. 30, significantly

changed the retired pay system for eligible members of a uniformed service.

As outlined in a memorandum from Acting Assistant Secretary of Defense, Gail McGinn, "The difference is that now these members may elect, upon completion of 15 years of active duty in the uniformed services, to receive a \$30,000 career status bonus, in which case they will again be under the REDUX retired pay system."

The basic difference in the two plans is members can either take a \$30,000 bonus at 15 years active service and opt for a smaller retirement check, or decline the CSB and choose a bigger retirement check.

According to the 437th Mission Support Squadron Military Personnel Flight, members of a uniformed service are eligible for CSB REDUX election if they are serving on active duty, and:

- Have a date of initial entry to military service of Aug. 1, 1986 or later, and

- Complete 15 years of active duty in the uniformed services, and

- Are eligible, as determined by their squadron commander, to continue on active duty until the completion of 20 years of active duty service

Notifications for eligible person-

See REDUX, page 3

IN THE NEWS

Days of Remembrance ceremony recalls lessons of Holocaust

By Lt. Col. Ed Memi
437 AW Public Affairs

Survivors of the horrors of Nazi concentration camps remember the words of those led to their deaths, "remember us, remember us." Charleston AFB did just that May 2 in a ceremony at the Base Chapel.

The Days of Remembrance was established by the United States Congress as the nation's annual commemoration of the victims of the Holocaust. The theme for this year's ceremonies was "remembering the past for the sake of the future."

Pincus Kolender and Joe Engel, guest speakers for the service, were just teenagers when they were sent to Auschwitz, Poland, in cattle cars in 1943 and 1942, respectively. They were held in Nazi concentration camps until American and Russian forces liberated them in 1945.

Engel grew up under Nazi oppression in Poland. In 1942, at the age of 15, he was ripped from his family and sent to Auschwitz. Engel is one of three who survived out of his family of 19. Kolender was captured by the Germans and is the sole survivor of five.

Approximately 11 million people were persecuted by the Nazis, of which 6 million were Jews. The

Nazis had 27 registered "death camps," or concentration camps, from 1939 to 1945. The largest of those death camps was Auschwitz. Established in 1940, it was really a series of camps, including concentration, extermination and forced-labor camps.

More than 1 million people were murdered at Auschwitz; nine of 10 were Jewish. The Nazis made death a system. It was Nazi leader Adolph Hitler's "Final Solution" to the "Jewish problem." Jews and other "undesirables" (gypsies, homosexuals and anyone who disagreed with Hitler) were moved to the area. Those who could work in the slave labor camps did so until they died. Those who could not work went straight to the gas chambers and were murdered. The four largest gas chambers could each kill 2,000 people at one time.

Kolender and Engel said only about 2 percent of those sent to Auschwitz survived and cited their survival as a mixture of their young age at the time and a miracle. Kolender said it was their duty to educate others about the horrors, and only education can prevent it from happening again. "It has to be told. Hate, prejudice and anti-Semitism are evil, and the Holocaust was a direct result," said

Kolender.

"Although it is not easy for me to speak about the Holocaust and all the crimes and atrocities committed against my family, myself and the Jewish people, I feel it most important to talk about it and repeat it over and over again no matter how painful," said Kolender. "We have to be ever vigilant so this will never happen again."

Kolender added the danger remains today from neo-Nazi groups, skinheads and other such groups, especially when they deny the Holocaust even happened. "Those who forget history are doomed to repeat it," he said.

Kolender described brutal beatings by sadistic guards, terrible and constant hunger, backbreaking labor camps, no medical care despite rampant disease, and filthy, lice-infested living conditions. He said most people died in about four to six weeks, sooner if they could no longer work.

"The hunger was worse than the beatings," Kolender said. "It stays with you 24 hours. I remember waking up in the middle of the night crying from pain."

Kolender and Engel described the visits by the "Angel of Death," Dr. Joseph Mengele, who made the decision on who lived and who died. "We would all hug one another because we didn't know if we would be there the next day," Kolender said. "I drank gallons of water to make myself look better."

The working conditions were bitter cold, as they were forced to work 8-10 hours outdoors in a city with the same latitude as Minnesota. People literally froze to death, since they did not have overcoats. Most worked with no shoes because the ones provided were uncomfortable, wooden Dutch shoes, all size 12.

"There were hanging parties held for anyone that tried to escape," said Kolender. "We would have to watch every Friday."

Engel also has strong memories of the terrible things he went through

during the Holocaust.

"The survivors (of the Holocaust) want to pass the torch to the next generation so never again can something so horrendous as the Holocaust be forgotten," Engel said.

Engel said about 104,000 inmates of Auschwitz were forced on a death march January 18, 1945, and more than half perished in one night. "I was there," said Engel. "Let us be reminded for the future so the past does not repeat itself."

In 1939, the Germans invaded Engel's city and took 150 boys and killed them in front of his eyes. He wore the yellow Star of David and could not walk on the sidewalk.

In 1942, the gas chambers were not finished, and the Germans dug ditches, forced people in, spread gasoline around and then threw in firebombs.

"I saw it myself many times, and you could smell the flesh," said Engel. "I've been to hell already."

The ceremony included a candlelight vigil poem read by the base's Jewish lay leader, Senior Airman David Winner, 437th Communications Squadron, and several prayers for those who perished. Following the ceremony, Winner described the ceremony as personally moving and a good reminder for base members.

"For me, it is a very emotional experience and an honor to be a part of such an occasion," said Winner. "I have friends who were liberators and survivors. They were witnesses, and they have come here today to let us know this was real."

Col. Karl Young, 437th Airlift Wing vice commander, in his closing remarks asked everyone to renew his or her commitment against these atrocities and to never let the world forget. He added he could not imagine the horror Holocaust survivors had been through, but thanked them for keeping the memory alive.

"One of the things that disturbs me most is man's inhumanity to man," Young said. "I am proud to be an American, and our nation carries the torch for humanity and for justice."



Photo by Staff Sgt. Corey Clements

Holocaust death camp survivor Pincus Kolender lights a candle at the Base Chapel as fellow survivor Joe Engel looks on during the Days of Remembrance ceremony May 2. The candles were lit while Senior Airman David Winner, 437th Communications Squadron, read a candlelight vigil poem.

July 1 pay raise to target midlevel NCOs, attempts to boost retention

Some midlevel NCOs will see an increase in their pay July 1 thanks to the Fiscal Year 2001 National Defense Authorization Act.

Unlike last year's July 1 pay table reform where 75 percent of military members saw a raise, this year's reform targets E-5 to E-7s with six-26 years of service.

The 3.7 percent raise of basic military pay is an attempt to align the pay scale between military members and civilians who hold the

same job. Maj. Shannon Averill, Air Force pay and allowances chief, said it would reward promotion over longevity and address some of the concerns expressed by Department of Defense and congressional leaders about retention trends.

"This is the initial step to fixing the problem," Averill said. "It's also a step toward closing the gap between private-sector civilian wages and military wages."

Effects of low recruiting and

retention rates will persist well into the future, according to Carol DiBattiste, the undersecretary of the Air Force. "We have to arrest the decline in retention," she said. "The deficit in middle skill levels is what's hurting, when our five- or seven-level enlisted members leave."

There is some question about the amount of the raise actually helping to retain members within the ranks of E-5 to E-7, but as Master Sgt. Matt Harless, 437th Airlift Wing

career assistance advisor, points out, "It's in good faith."

"The raise may not seem like a lot," Harless said, "but as with any job, when you have a good boss who seems to care, you are motivated to be a hard worker. With the raise and the benefits, there has never been a better time to be in the Air Force."

The 2001 NDAA is part of an ongoing effort to change and restore benefits for military members. Staff Sgt. Troy Jarrell, 437th Mission Support

Squadron, will be affected by the raise and is pleased, he said. Jarrell said he feels the time military members put into their work deserves to be compensated. "I think the raise is a great idea," Jarrell said. "The time spent in the field away from our families and on TDYs deserves compensation."

For more information on pay increases, visit www.dfas.mil. (AFP. Jennifer Cavender, 437 AW Public Affairs, also contributed to this article.)

Air Expo 2001 traffic flow plan released

In order to ensure safe and timely access to and from Charleston AFB during Air Expo 2001 May 19, the 437th Security Forces Squadron has devised the following traffic flow plan. For more information about workcenter passes, call 963-3643.

| Patron | Use gate | Remarks | Important |
|---|----------------------|---|---|
| Air Expo 2001 | Dorchester or Rivers | Dorchester Gate provides quickest Air Expo entry and exit | Rivers Gate will close at 1:30 p.m. for flying acts |
| Base housing west of Hill Boulevard | Dorchester | Access is available by turning left at Hill Boulevard and Arthur Drive | Inform the traffic control personnel of destination |
| Base housing east of Hill Boulevard | Dorchester | Access available by turning right at Davis Avenue and James Avenue | Inform the traffic control personnel of destination |
| Commissary, BX and Shopette from off base | Commissary | Patrons will not have access to other parts of the base | Road blocks will be in place to ensure safe routes for Air Expo |
| Golf course | Dorchester or Rivers | Dorchester Gate-Turn left at Hill Boulevard and Arthur Drive Rivers-Go straight at Arthur Drive and Stewart Drive | Inform the traffic control personnel of destination |
| Workcenter (civilian) | Dorchester | Need a workcenter pass from security forces | Place pass in windshield |
| Workcenter (military) | Dorchester | In uniform | Inform the traffic control personnel of destination |
| Leaving base during Air Expo | Commissary | Follow instructions of posted traffic control personnel | Exit out of Commissary Gate |
| Leaving base after Air Expo | Dorchester or Rivers | North Charleston Police will reverse all traffic routes to one way, out only, immediately following the last flying act | Plan accordingly, because there will be no inbound traffic during lane reversal |

437 SUPS to relocate

The 437th Supply Squadron is moving out of Bldg. 611 and into four new base locations. Several sections will offer limited services throughout the move.

■ Customer Service will be moving to Bldg. 302 and will offer out-processing from Bldg. 675 (base fuels) May 21-25. During this time, they can be reached at 963-2709. For questions, contact Tech. Sgt. Steven Bolden at 963-4835.

■ Effective May 22, the Mobility Element will be conducting business from Bldg. 532 (K Hangar). For more information, contact Master Sgt. Richard Stenger at 963-4844 or Tech. Sgt. Kevin Getchell at 963-4841.

■ DRMO will be moving to Bldg. 532 and will not accept turn-ins for transfer Thursday-June 15. Customers must call for an appointment to schedule drop-off times. Equipment custodians must call and schedule inspection appointments no later than Monday for equipment-type turn-ins. For more information, call James Oakley at 963-4791.

■ Central Receiving will move to Bldg. 178 Thursday. For questions, call Master Sgt. Valerie Evans at 963-4781.

■ Individual Equipment will be moving to Bldg. 713 on May 18. Full services for individual equipment will be available, and limited services for office supplies should be expected.

Police

continued from page 1

a parade through base housing and a Military Working Dog demonstration. The parade will include a humvee and patrol vehicle with a candy giveaway. McGruff the Crime Dog will be riding in the turret of the humvee. The

parade is scheduled for 3:30-5 p.m. MWD handlers will display their dogs in the open area on McCombs Way adjacent to Hill Boulevard at 6 p.m.

"Master Sgt. (Richard) Graves (437 SFS administration superintendent) has done a lot of work to plan this week's events," said Rodgers.

"They're all going to stress the theme of National Police Week, but I think the wreath ceremony will stand out for me the most. That wreath will be there every day throughout the week and it will stand out to remind everyone what this week means."

For more information about any of the events, call 963-3601.

REDUX

continued from page 1

nel should be coming to Charleston AFB members soon from their unit commanders, according to 437 MSS. An election to take the CSB REDUX option must be made no later than six months after the eligibility notification is sent, or no later than the date the member has served on active duty for 15 years, whichever is later. This means the first eligible members will be those with 15 years of active service as of Aug. 1.

"It's a very big decision," said Master Sgt. Tonya Harris, 437 MSS Separations and Retirements superintendent. "People need to be careful about making their decision. If they choose the CSB REDUX option, the choice is effective and irrevocable on the day they reach 15 years of service."

Fortunately, Barbara Lang, Family Support Center personal financial manager, understands the ins and outs of both plans and is ready to help CAFB members make an important, complicated decision.

"Individuals who are eligible to make a choice will be notified at approximately the 14-year, 6-month point in their career," said Lang.

Once the notification is made, the individual must attend a mandatory CSB REDUX financial training session. "They can also schedule an appointment to discuss their options in more detail once they've received the training," said Lang.

Choosing between the two plans can be complicated by personal retirement goals and the individualized underlying circumstances of each plan. For more information, call 963-6211.



Photo by Senior Airman Jason Smith

Airman 1st Class Curtis Long, 437th Security Forces Squadron, checks an ID at Rivers Gate. Members of the 437 SFS not only do day-to-day police work, but also are responsible for security of air bases during war.

NEWS BRIEFS

Around the base

Base yard sale: The Base Yard Sale is Saturday, 8 a.m.-noon, at the base picnic grounds. Tables can be rented from the Consignment Shop for \$10. All tables are in the pavilions and all are covered.

OSA Bingo: The Officers' Spouses' Association is meeting for bingo Tuesday, 6 p.m., at the Charleston Club. All members will receive bingo cards and are eligible for prizes. Dinner will include a Mexican buffet with dessert and a margarita punch. The cost is \$16.50 for Charleston Club members and \$19.50 for non-members. RSVP by Sunday to 871-9829 between 9 a.m. and 9 p.m.

FOD walk: The base will conduct a semiannual Foreign Object Damage prevention walk Thursday, 9:30 a.m., on the south end of Hangar 700. All base personnel are encouraged to attend. Line badges are not required, and transportation will be provided to return individuals to Hangar 700. Four "golden bolts" will be hidden, and participants who find them will be awarded prizes for attention to detail. For more information, call 2nd Lt. Jerrymar Copeland at 963-4689.

Chiefs' Group: The Charleston AFB Chiefs' Group will hold its monthly meeting Thursday, 11 a.m., at the Charleston Club. Representatives from Heritage Trust Federal Credit Union will address the group, and lunch will be provided. All Chiefs may attend.

Road closed: Arthur Drive extension from Rivers Gate to Aviation Road will be closed Thursday, 11:25 a.m.-4 p.m., May 18, 1:30-4 p.m., and May 19, 1:30-4 p.m., to accommodate the U.S. Navy Blue Angels Demonstration Team.

Closure: The 437th Medical Group will be closed May 19 due to the Air Expo. There will be no patient appointments or pharmacy services available. Normal operations will resume May 21.

Parenting class: The Behavioral Sciences Flight is offering a free, six-session class for Charleston AFB parents of teenagers. The evening classes will start May 22 and meet for six consecutive Tuesdays, 6:30-8:30 p.m. For more information and to register, call Jim Hernandez at 963-6504.

Commissary: The Commissary Focus Group meeting will be held May 23, 1:30 p.m., in the Commissary training room. The Commissary will be open May 29, 9 a.m.-7 p.m.

Dental clinic: The 437th Dental Flight is now accepting applications for the next Red Cross Dental Assist-

Charleston Profile

Tech. Sgt. Joe Whetstone
315th Maintenance Squadron

Tech. Sgt. Joe Whetstone is a survival equipment journeyman with the 315th Maintenance Squadron as an Air Reserve Technician. Whetstone works as a civilian during the normal week and as a traditional reservist on weekends. His duties include maintaining life support equipment such as personnel parachutes, aircraft emergency life rafts and personal life preservers. He also works in the survival shop's fabric section designing and manufacturing protective covers and custom upholstery for aircraft.

Originally from Hollywood, S.C., Whetstone joined the Reserve in 1982. He started by working in the fabrication flight as an aircraft structural repair technician, but due to staffing changes during the early 1990s, he was slated to lose his position in the squadron. In September 1993, he was ready to make a switch.

"At the same time my job was closing up, I heard the fab shop had a possible opening," said Whetstone. "The type of work was very different, and the position was for an ART only. It was still a good opportunity, and I consider myself fortunate to get it. I did not plan to be an ART. It was just something that happened.

"I have to say this is a great place to work," he continued. "The people here are the friendliest coworkers you could ask for, and the work environment itself is great."

Whetstone can be found busy at many other things besides work. He has coached little league teams in the Charleston area for the past several years. Most of his spare time is centered on his three children, but he also enjoys working with horses.



Photo by Senior Airman Donald Church

ing Class, which begins June 11. The program lasts 6-7 months, 40 hours per week, exposes participants to a wide variety of dental procedures and awards a certificate of training. Applications are available at the dental clinic's reception desk and must be received by May 24. For more information, call Staff Sgt. Jennifer Ramirez at 963-6847.

Parking: There are many recreational vehicles on Charleston AFB parked in unauthorized locations. The only authorized area for recreational vehicles is the fenced area on Stewart Avenue across from Bldg. 637 and is for base residents only. Prior to parking, the owner of the vehicle must register through the 437th Services Squadron. The housing office may also authorize short-term parking for new base housing residents, but appropriate paperwork must be completed. Recreational vehicles parked in any other location are subject to impoundment at the owner's expense. For more information, call 963-3605.

Consignment: The base Consignment Shop is open Tuesdays, Thursdays and Fridays, 10 a.m.-2 p.m., and the first Saturday of each month, 10 a.m.-1 p.m. The shop is also looking for a paid, part-time book-

keeper. Apply in person. The shop is located in Bldg. 203 on Graves Avenue. For more information, call 963-3294.

TMO: The peak season for shipments of personal property is here. Personnel should report to the TMO office as soon as they receive their orders. Because of current volume, three-four weeks are needed to confirm requested move dates. Personnel shipping vehicles overseas must ensure they have all proper documentation upon arrival at the Vehicle Processing Center. Required documentation now includes permanent change of station orders and either the title or letter of authorization from the lien-holder or lease company before shipment can be accomplished. For more information, call 963-2255, or visit www.charleston.af.mil/CHAS/437AW/OG/TMO/index.htm.

Family Support Center

Air: The Family Support Center now has a membership with Air Inc., for the convenience of those personnel deciding between separation and an Air Force career. Some of the resources available include the Airline Pilot Career Decisions Guide, Airline Application Handbook, Air-

line Fleet and Sim Directory and Pilot Resource Guide. Free Web access and counseling are also available. To access these resources, visit the FSC's Discovery Center in Bldg. 104. The center is open Mondays, Wednesdays and Fridays, 8 a.m.-8 p.m. For more information, call Linda Lankosz at 963-5187.

Hearts Apart: Hearts Apart is an ongoing program for spouses of deployed service members. The program offers such services as e-mail, morale calls, videophone calls and free oil changes. For information, contact Tech. Sgt. Ken Gilmore at 963-5630.

Pre-Deployment Briefings: Monday and May 21, 8 a.m., and Thursday, May 24 and 31, 4 p.m.

Investing A-Z II: Monday, 9-11:30 a.m.

Positive Parenting: Tuesday, 9-11 a.m.

TAP 3-Day Workshop: Tuesday-Thursday, 8 a.m.-4:30 p.m.

Sponsorship Training: Wednesday, 3:30-4:30 p.m.

Employers Panel and Mini Job Fair: Thursday, 2-4:30 p.m.

Troops-To-Teachers: May 21, 10-11 a.m.

All workshops are held at the FSC unless otherwise noted. For more information or to register, call the Family Support Center at 963-4406.

COMMENTARY

About the paper

AIRLIFT
Dispatch

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YORR funds to bring improvements

By Col. Karl Young
437 AW vice commander

We received fantastic news from Gen. Tony Robertson, commander of US Transportation Command and Air Mobility Command, that we'll get about \$170,000 in Year of Retention and Recruiting funds to make improvements to our dormitories and purchase new exercise equipment for the Sports and Fitness Center.

New dormitory amenities will include a lighted volleyball court (located between Bldgs. 477 and 479) and a new pavilion area (located between Bldgs. 477 and 479). The new pavilion will include a patio, sidewalks, two barbecue areas, six tables, benches and trash receptacles. It will be similar to the existing pavilion in the middle of the dormitory campus area. Dormitory residents will also receive six bike racks. Two will be installed at Bldgs. 475 and 477. One will be installed at Bldgs. 460 and 479. After the improvements, each dormitory will have one at each end.

Improvements to the Sports and Fitness Center will include new treadmills, rear-drive cross trainers, free-climber stairmasters and exercise bicycles for the brand new Cardiovascular Theater scheduled to open soon. These are welcome additions to our Sports and Fitness Center, one of the most heavily used facilities on base.

Col. Georgette Hassler, a division chief from AMC Manpower and Organization, and Chief Master Sgt. Joe Carter, the AMC career field manager for Manpower, visited the base Wednesday and Thursday. This was their first opportunity to visit AMC Manpower and Organization offices, and they met with our staff to become better acquainted with their operation. They also toured a C-17 and received a number of briefings.

I had the pleasure of briefing about 70 members of the North Charleston Area Business Council about our base and community interaction in the convention center Wednes-

day. Area Business Councils serve as forums in which leaders in each of the five areas, East Cooper, North Charleston, Peninsular, Sea Islands and West Ashley/James Island, gather to discuss issues relevant to their respective communities. ABCs focus on issues important to their communities, raise awareness of Chamber of Commerce activities, support (chamber) member retention and recruitment, and sustain a strong platform for members to promote their businesses through networking and fellowship.

We are making good progress in turning Charleston into an Air Force town, and we have a good message worth sharing in the local community. During this event, we also had a chance for our honor guard to perform. Readily apparent from meeting with these community leaders, they do appreciate all that you do for our nation's defense. They were impressed with the strong, active role Charleston AFB plays in the local community. Keep up the good work and stay involved in our community!

In preparation for the annual Air Expo, we practiced a major accident response exercise Wednesday. Although our expectation is that everything will be normal for our Air Expo, it is important to work with the Inspector General office to prepare for the worst, in this case, an aircraft accident with many casualties.

A robust scenario gave everyone some good training. We practiced our procedures and ensured we are ready to deal with any situation, regardless of its complexity. I appreciate everyone's hard work in responding to this simulated disaster. A special thanks to the Inspector General staff, Exercise Evaluator Team and role players in the exercise.

We hosted about 20 civic leaders from Eglin AFB, Fla., Thursday and today. Brig. Gen. Jack Catton, 53rd Wing commander, and Col. Hawk Carlisle, 33rd Fighter Wing commander, accompanied the civic leaders.

The civic leaders spent

most of their day learning about our mission and meeting with our people. The Air Force sponsors these trips to build better community awareness of our role and mission. These trips pay big dividends for the bases by increasing public support when the civic leaders go back into their respective community and share what they saw. It is a great program for a wing commander to build strong support for his or her base.

Our activities for Air Expo 2001 start this Saturday with a 5K run and walk beginning at 8:30 a.m. We are hoping for a good turnout. I will be competing for the \$4,000 in cash and prizes and hope to see you there. It is a great way to stay in shape, and it is unique because it gives the public a chance to run on the one of the fastest and flattest courses around, while affording a great view of the C-17s on our flightline. You can even register on the day of the race, 7-8 a.m. Come out and support the base!

On May 13, we will host a Mother's Day Brunch from 10:30 a.m.-1:30 p.m. Reservations are required for groups of 10 or more. We expect a large turnout. The price is \$11.95 for adults and \$5.95 for children ages 5-12. The brunch has become a successful event each month, and we need your continued support to keep it going!

I know that you have already heard much about our Air Expo May 19, but it is so exciting that I wanted to share some details with you again, since it is just around the corner. Maj. Jim Shoemaker, Air Expo 2001 director, and his staff have been hard at work to create one of the most action-

packed shows ever.

We are truly fortunate to have the U.S. Navy Blue Angels and U.S. Army Golden Knights performing. The Blue Angels last performed here in 1988. We are expecting a huge crowd, and the show will feature more than 50 static-display aircraft and numerous civilian aircraft demonstrations, such as F-104 Starfighters, a B-25J Mitchel and P-51 Mustang.

Of course, our C-17 Globemaster III will perform a demonstration, too. We also have the F-16 Fighting Falcon demonstration and U.S. Air Force Academy Wings of Blue parachute team. We will even have flybys by the F-117 Stealth fighter, the B-1B Lancer bomber and other historic aircraft. It promises to be the largest single-day event in the state, and it is all free.

Please tell your neighbors about Air Expo 2001. The Air Expo offers a great opportunity to recruit tomorrow's airmen and inform the public about our mission.

Additional information about the expo can be found on our public Web site, www.charleston.af.mil, or by calling 963-EXPO. I'll see you there.



Photo by Staff Sgt. Andrew Rodier
Maj. Ricky Cornelio, 437th Aircraft Generation Squadron commander, reenlists husband and wife, Senior Airman Aaron and Ivy Abercrombie, both of the 437 AGS, in front of a C-17. This year was designated the Year of Retention and Recruiting by Air Mobility Command.

FEATURE

Daughters of fallen SP reflect on dad's life during National Police Week

By Senior Airman Jason Smith
437 AW Public Affairs

"Since we were on vacation in Massachusetts, they sent someone from the local Air National Guard base to grandma's house at about 4:30 in the morning. No one woke us up then. They let us sleep. Grandma woke us up later in the morning. I remember mom was crying and she told us, 'Daddy's not coming back. He went to live with Jesus.'"

Although she wasn't quite 5 years old at the time, Rebekah Shelton (married to Senior Airman Christopher Shelton, 437th Airlift Wing Maintenance Aircraft Coordination Center) has a vivid memory of the morning she found out her father, Sgt. William Rollinson II, was killed in a C-130 Hercules crash.

Sgt. Rollinson was a security specialist for the 437th Security Police Squadron. He and Tech. Sgt. Frederick Francis, also a member of the 437 SPS, were TDY to Panama. On Jan. 22, 1985, the two of them, along with 19 other crewmembers, perished during a routine payroll flight from Panama to Honduras.

"I had just turned 3 when it happened," said Sarah Rollinson, Sgt. Rollinson's youngest daughter. "I remember the funeral, but I really didn't understand what was going on. I figured daddy was just away from home again. It seemed like he was always away, so it wasn't until I was 4 that I realized he wasn't coming home."

According to Rebekah, the family still doesn't know exactly what caused the crash. With different stories about a crash that happened during the Iran-Contra scandal, conspiracy theories ran their course with the Rollinson family.



Courtesy photo

Sarah (left), William and Rebekah Rollinson in Turkey prior to PCSing to Charleston AFB.

"My grandfather hired a private investigator," said Rebekah. "Nothing he found is official in any way. No matter what the cause, closure is tough to reach when there is no body."

Wreckage was found and returned according to Sarah, but the crash was so bad, only small pieces of bodies were found.

"There might have been enough to piece everything together and make one body from the remains of all 19 people," said Sarah. "I held out hope for a long time waiting to see a body. They say everyone has a twin, and I saw a man who looked identical to my dad. I knew it wasn't him, but it made me think, maybe, just maybe."

Rebekah and Sarah both say there are times when the memory of their father hurts particularly bad.

"I cried on my 16th birthday," Rebekah said. "It was so tough because I still thought in the back of my mind that he may show up. I walked down the aisle alone in my wedding. I also wish he would have been there to see my son, Tyler."

Sarah also said she truly missed her father when she gave birth to her son. He is named William Gary Thomas Rollinson in his honor.

Both girls have vivid memories about the kind of NCO and father Sgt. Rollinson was. They said he was extremely particular about his appearance and his duties as a security policeman.

"When dad would come home, we couldn't hug him until he took his boots off," said Rebekah. "We didn't want to step on them and leave a mark. He had the most immaculate boots I've ever seen to this day. He would spend hours, or at least what



Courtesy photo

The Rollinson family on the beach in Turkey.



Courtesy photo

(Left to right) Rebekah, William, Debra and Sarah Rollinson pose in their last photograph before the death of William in a C-130 Hercules crash in 1985.

seemed like hours to a 5 year old, making sure his beret was just right. His uniform was perfect. The creases were incredible and somehow he didn't get that shiny starch look on them.

"He used to ride his bicycle on base, and sometimes he would put me on the handlebars," she continued. "I thought it was so cool how the people working the gates always knew him and were so nice to us."

Sometimes, the best memories are common events that seemed insignificant at the time they happened, according to Sarah.

"Dad used to take us to the base pool a lot," she said. "They only had a Pepsi machine there, so that's what he bought us. He would also sneak in Bugles to eat. Chlorine and Pepsi together have a unique taste. To this day, whenever I drink a Pepsi, I think about dad."

Rebekah, Sarah and their sons will be present Monday, 7 a.m., at a wreath-laying ceremony at the base flagstaff. The 437th Security Forces Squadron is using the Reveille to kick off National Police Week (May 13-19). The Rollinson family, along with the families of other fallen police officers, will be honored.

"To have our father memorialized really touches me," said Sarah. "It's a lot like crying happy tears. You're crying because you're proud. Anyone who signs up to give their life when their country calls is a hero. If someone serves during a tense period, like the Iran-Contra era, to me, that's the true embodiment of a patriot."

"A lot of the teenagers I know think you only die in war," she continued. "Some of them don't even look at Desert Storm as a war. People died there, and

people die when we're not at war. That doesn't make someone any less of a hero."

Rebekah said she gets angry when she sees people on base not paying their due respect to the flag.

"I think about my father when I see a car driving during retreat or when people are talking and laughing during the national anthem at the base theater," Rebekah said.

"I also get irritated when I hear stories about people not taking their job seriously," she continued. "What if the mechanics working dad's plane didn't take their job seriously, or they felt lazy that day? I can't help but think about things like that."

"The important thing is to put petty differences aside," continued Rebekah. "It seems a lot of military people aren't real close with their parents. It may be because they live far apart, or they're deployed a lot or whatever. Be close with your family. Don't be mad at them or have unresolved issues. If they die, you'll never resolve those issues. Don't be the one living in regret saying, 'I wish I would have told dad I loved him more.'"

On the wall of the security forces training room hangs a painting with a plaque on each side. Most people don't know the story behind the painting of the two SPs who died in 1985. The Rollinson and Francis families, and members of the security forces squadron definitely know the story.

National Police Week may be a good time for the rest of Charleston AFB to honor the sacrifices police officers have made in the past and the families they had to leave behind because their duty called them to attention at guardmount in heaven.

Airmen-to-Schools program kicks off; volunteers go to local schools to spread word about Air Expo 2001

By Rose Alexander
437 AW Public Affairs

The Charleston AFB Airmen-to-Schools Program's recent base-wide call for volunteers resulted in more than 100 active-duty members volunteering to participate in a variety of activities involving local elementary, middle and high schools. The volunteers are comprised of both officer and enlisted personnel representing almost every squadron on base.

Activities include ongoing mentoring programs, serving as positive role models, speaking at the schools, participating in career fairs, shadowing programs, escorting students on base tours and assisting schools in other ways throughout the school year as requested. The main goal of the program is to spread the word about the mission of CAFB, the Air Force in general and what career and educational opportunities are available.

The word is spreading about the support CAFB personnel are giving to area schools through the Airmen-to-Schools Program. North Charleston, St. Johns, West Ashley, Wando and Summerville High Schools, in

addition to many middle and elementary schools, have all expressed interest in setting up formal mentoring and shadowing programs. Many of these programs will be in place by the start of the new school year.

Several members of CAFB visited area schools recently to spread the word about CAFB's upcoming Air Expo 2001 May 19. Those visiting the schools were given Air Expo flyers, C-17 posters and other visuals to show and present to the classes.

Husband and wife team, Senior Airman Frances Williams and Airman 1st Class Reginald Williams, both of the 437th Supply Squadron, visited a ninth-grade Junior Reserve Officer Training Corps class at Wando High School, Charleston.

"My husband and I had an excellent time at the school," said Senior Airman Williams. "Society sometimes thinks today's children are out of touch, but these kids know exactly what they want. They are all driven, and that is what surprised me. They definitely have their goals set. They were interested not only in how to get to college, but what options they have in becoming more independent to relieve their parents of the financial responsibility."

This visit left a lasting impression with Senior Airman Williams, who said it was one of the most uplifting and positive experiences she has encountered.

The Williams were part of a group of seven Team Charleston members visiting three Wando High School classrooms. Others visiting Wando were Tech. Sgt. Terry White, Airman 1st Class Kevin Abraham and Senior Airman Temika Keys, all from the 437th Maintenance Squadron; and Senior Airman Jeannine McGuire and Airman 1st Class Bradley Newsome, both of the 437th Comptroller Squadron.

Airman 1st Class Jeffrey L. Barnett Jr., 437th Civil Engineer Squadron, was part of a group of CAFB members who visited Ladson Elementary School, Ladson, S.C., to participate in the school's annual career fair. Barnett spoke to approximately 60 fifth- and sixth-grade students.

"Everything went great at Ladson Elementary," said Barnett. "I got the word out not only about the Air Expo, but also about the military and its role in the local community. The kids really enjoyed it and are looking forward to the Air Expo."

Staff Sgt. Lynn Scholl, 437th Sup-

ply Squadron, spoke to 65-70 second-grade students and was pleasantly surprised by the level of their interest.

"The kids were very enthusiastic and wanted to know a lot about the military and what we do here on base," Scholl said. "They now understand more about careers and the Air Force in general. I feel like I definitely made a difference."

When he asked the children if they knew about the Air Expo, Scholl said many of the children had been to it before, and more than half of them planned on attending this year.

Chief Master Sgt. Melvin Willis, 437 CPTS, who spoke to 90 fourth and fifth graders, said he was really surprised at how many students actually knew about the Air Force and were already thinking about the Air Force as a possible career. "They even had a prepared list of questions to ask," said Willis. He discussed the Air Expo with the students and said most of the students, as well as the teachers, were definitely planning to attend.

For more information about the Airmen-to-Schools Program, call the 437th Airlift Wing Public Affairs Office at 963-5535, 963-5657 or 963-3383.

Chapel schedule



107 Arthur Drive

Office hours: 7:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m., Monday-Friday.

Phone: 963-2536. After duty hours, call the command post at 963-2531 for emergencies only.

Catholic Services

Saturday -- 4 p.m. Reconciliation, 5 p.m. Mass.

Sunday -- 9:30 a.m. Mass, 9:30 a.m. Children's Church.

Weekdays -- 11:30 a.m. Mass, Sacrament of Baptism pre-baptismal classes are held the first Sunday of each month at 11 a.m. in the Chapel Annex. For Sacrament of Marriage, call the Catholic chaplain six months prior to the wedding.

Protestant Services

Sunday -- 9:30 a.m. Sunday School in Bldg. 245, 11 a.m. Traditional Worship Service, 11 a.m. Children's Church.

Thursday -- 7 p.m. Praise and Worship contemporary service.

Buddhist: Columbia Shambhala Meditation Center, Suite 109, Columbia, S.C. 29405.

Orthodox: Holy Trinity, Greek Orthodox Church, 30 Race St., Charleston, S.C. Phone: 577-2063.

Jewish: Call Jewish Lay Leader: Senior Airman David Winner at 963-2102.

Islamic: Al-Jami Ar-Rasheed, 1998 Hugo Ave., Charleston Heights, S.C. Phone: 554-1773.

Movie schedule

Admission prices:

Adults/Children -- 99 cents

Any child under 17 years of age requires a parent or adult guardian (21 years old) to purchase admission ticket for the minor child to view R-rated movies. The ticket office opens 30 minutes prior to start of movie, unless otherwise noted.

Movie schedules are provided by AAFES. Patrons should call 963-3333 to verify movie titles, running times and start times, which are subject to change.

Today, 7:30 p.m.

"The Brothers" – Morris Chestnut

Jackson, Brian, Derrick and Terry are lifelong friends banded together to weather love's innate terrors and occasional triumphs. Amidst the career track, basketball and bar hopping, they love women, as many as possible, but shocking revelations test the foursome's friendship and change their dating habits forever. **(R) 97 minutes**

Saturday, 7:30 p.m.

"Heartbreakers" – Sigourney Weaver

Max and Page are a mother-daughter duo who are in the middle of a con, when Page does the unthinkable – she falls in love. Things like morals and conscience start to surface, which force mother and daughter to square off and examine their crazy relationship to keep their own hearts in one piece. **(PG-13) 123 minutes**

May 18, 7:30 p.m.

"Josie and the Pussycats" – Rachel Leigh Cook

A group of life-long friends are determined to take their band out of the garage and into the stratosphere while staying true to their own look, style and sound. One day they are "discovered," and instantly they are positioned for success beyond their wildest dreams. **(PG-13) 99 minutes**

Fitness & Sports

Sports line

Golf tournament: The Top 3 Association is hosting a golf tournament today, 9 a.m., at Wrenwoods Golf Course. Registration for the captain's choice tournament begins at 7 a.m. Proceeds from the \$15 entry fee will go toward the junior enlisted block party. Green and cart fees also apply. Prizes will be awarded to first- through third-place teams. For more information, call Master Sgt. William Schroeder at 963-4196 or Master Sgt. Kevin Newcomb at 963-4239.

Golf tournament: The Wrenwoods Women's Golf Association is hosting its first-ever golf tournament May 23-24 at Wrenwoods Golf Course. Tee times start at 9 a.m. Prizes will be awarded for low gross and first-second- and third-low net. The \$15 entry fee includes prizes and the annual awards lunch May 24. To be eligible, entrants must have an established handicap and be a member of the WWGA. Entrants must sign up by Wednesday at the Wrenwoods Pro Shop, or by calling 963-4177. For more information, call Cindy Mackey at 767-4329 or Barbara Karns at 873-0549.

Golf tournament: The First Six Association is holding its Inaugural Golf Tournament May 25, 8:30 a.m., at Wrenwoods Golf Course. Check in for the captain's choice tournament begins at 7:45 a.m. The \$20 entry fee includes range balls, lunch and beverages. Green and cart fees also apply. Prizes will be awarded to the top three teams and for longest drive and closest to the pin. For more information, call Tech. Sgt. Lisa Barkman at 963-4508 or Staff Sgt. H. P. Bourdeaux at 963-5495.

HAWC News: The HAWC is offering classes on Nutrition for Sports Performance Monday, noon, in the fitness center classroom and Weight Training for Golf, May 23, 4:30 p.m., in the fitness center classroom at the Sports and Fitness Center. These classes are open to the entire Charleston AFB community. The center is also offering free cholesterol and blood pressure screenings Wednesday, 10:30 a.m.-1 p.m., in front of the Base Exchange. For more information, call the HAWC at 963-4007.

No restriction: Individuals on the Monitored Fitness Improvement Program are now allowed to utilize the base fitness center for exercising and will no longer be restricted to exercising at the Health and Wellness Center. For questions or comments, call the HAWC at 963-4007.

By Brian Rish
437 SVS Marketing

Playing in the pros is a dream many young athletes share. Recently, three members of the Youth Center's Basketball Program came one step closer to realizing their dreams when the Amateur Athletic Union of the United States recruited them to play on the newly-formed, Charleston-based, South Carolina Stars Team.

"We were just playing a regular game at the Youth Center," said R.J. Cornelio, one of the AAU's new recruits, "and when it was over, they came by and asked a few of us to try out for the team."

What followed was a whirlwind tour of tryouts, practices, traveling and games that landed Cornelio, Leroy Summers, A.J. Vasvari-Toke and nine other youth from Charleston-area schools in the AAU State Championship Game. All of this happened in a few weeks from the time they were selected for the team.

"The guys we played in the Championship Tournament were huge," recalled Vasvari-Toke. "Most were easily six-feet tall, and some were bigger. We just played like we did in practice, and we made it all the way to the finals."

Vasvari-Toke's dad, Tech. Sgt. George Vasvari-Toke, 437th Maintenance Squadron, was also impressed by the size of the Stars' competitors.

"I would like to know what their parents were feeding them, because I'm tall, and I had to look up to some of them," said Tech. Sgt. Vasvari-Toke. "Our team really sweated it out, though, and showed everyone how tough they really are."

Making it to the finals earned the Stars a slot in the AAU National Tournament. The tournament will include teams from all over the country, including a team from Greenville, S.C., that managed to beat the Stars at the State Champi-

onships.

"I can't believe how hard our guys worked," commented Maj. Ricky Cornelio, R.J.'s father, and commander of the 437th Aircraft Generation Squadron. "Most of the teams in the tournament had been together for three years, not weeks, but our guys made it to the finals with big baskets and big defense. I think they have a great chance at nationals."

The AAU National Tournament will take place in Virginia Beach, Va., July 13-22. For now though, it's back to the practice grind for the South Carolina Stars, who practice for 90 minutes, three times a week, at the Danny Jones Recreation Building.

"We work really hard at practice," said Leroy Summers, "but it's not too bad because we're working with great players."

As part of their preparation for the National Tournament, the Stars have held several

fundraisers, and will be holding a few more before their July 13 take-off date. The fundraisers are to help offset the expense of taking the entire team to Virginia Beach. For more information, please contact the Stars' Head Coach, Larry Canady, at 553-3657.

"This whole process has been about as exciting for the parents as it has been for the kids," said Leroy Summers Sr., AAFES Operations Manager. "It's great to watch your children get to do something like this."

The AAU is a nation-wide amateur sports program. Their mission is to offer amateur sports programs through a volunteer-based network of national and local sporting events for all people to have the physical, mental and moral development of amateur athletes, and to promote good sportsmanship and good citizenship. For more information on the AAU visit <http://www.auboybasketball.org>.



Courtesy photo

After three weeks of playing together, the South Carolina Stars placed second at the Amateur Athletic Union of the United States State Championships. The placing earned them a position in the AAU National Tournament, July 13-22. Charleston AFB players are (front row, second from left) A.J. Vasvari-Toke, (front row, fourth from left) R.J. Cornelio, and (back row, second from left) Leroy Summers.

Charleston AFB to hold Air Expo 2001 5K Run/Fitness Walk Saturday

The annual race on the runway at Charleston AFB will take place Saturday, 8:30 a.m.

The event is open to the public and there will be over \$4,000 in cash and prizes awarded.

Last year 277 people participated in the event. The first person to cross the finish line was Ben Vaughn of Charleston with a time of 17:10, averaging 5:32 a mile. The first woman to finish was Shawn Baldy, with a time of 20:10, averaging 6:29 a mile.

This year, the 437th Services Squadron marketing office expects around 400 participants.

Late registration is \$15 for the run and \$12 for the walk. T-shirts will be available while supplies last. Packet pickup is at the Fitness and Sports Center today. Late registration will be the day of the race 7-8 a.m.

The course is a USA Track and Field certified race. Mile markers with split timers will be located at each mile point.

Children and strollers are welcome for walkers, but no pets will be allowed. Results will be available at www.437Services.com or www.geocities.com/actioncarolina.



Photo by Laura Abell

The 2000 Air Expo 5K Run/Walk had 277 participants.